

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Agenda Highlights for May 4, 2009

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COMMITTING TO REFORM CITY GOVERNMENT: As the next step after announcing a 10-year plan to continue reforming government and reducing costs with Mayor Michael B. Coleman, City Auditor Hugh J. Dorrian, City Attorney Richard C. Pfeiffer and other public officials, City Council will formally adopt *resolution 0057-2009*. The resolution expresses support for the Reform and Efficiency Action Plan, which includes new approaches to employee benefits, public safety reforms and strategic partnerships. The plan's proposals, the result of recommendations from the Economic Advisory Committee, are a component of a three-part plan that includes creating jobs and raising new revenue to stabilize the city's long-term economic future.

SAVING COSTS, SAVING JOBS: As part of the strategy to balance the 2009 general fund budget, city employees will receive a five-day temporary layoff. Administration Committee Chair <u>A. Troy Miller</u> is sponsoring *ordinance 0501-2009* to authorize the temporary lay-off of employees covered by the management compensation plan, which will realize \$920,000 in savings. Councilmember Miller is also sponsoring *ordinance 0599-2009* to accept a memorandum of understanding with AFSCME Local 1632 wherein the union's members agree to observe five unpaid holidays, thus forfeiting 40 hours of pay.

TYSON SUPPORTING SUMMER FESTIVALS: Recreation and Parks Committee Chair Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring legislation that will support two of Columbus' most popular summer festivals. Ordinance 0422-2009 will authorize a \$100,000 contract with Class Acts Columbus, Inc., for professional and fiscal services to Music in the Air and the Office of Special Events for the Jazz and Rib Fest to be held July 24, 25 and 26, 2009 and other events as needed. Services include all details pertaining to artist booking, advance performance, travel and production arrangements. Fiscal agent services include processing artist contracts and payment of contract deposits and artist fees.

PROVIDING TREATMENT SERVICES: Health, Housing & Human Services Committee Chair Charleta B. Tavares is sponsoring legislation to enable the Health Department to continue providing alcohol and drug abuse counseling and prevention services to men, women, children and families and the homeless population. The Columbus Health Department has been awarded the 2009 grant service contract for the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Outpatient Program, Adult Prevention Services, Women's Project, C&A Prevention and the AOD/HIV Prevention Program. *Ordinance 0597-2009* will authorize The Columbus Health Department to accept a grant service contract in the amount of \$973,740, and authorize the total appropriation of \$1,411,740, which includes program revenues, from the Health Department Grants Fund to support the contract.

**The Health, Housing & Human Services Committee will be held on <u>Wednesday May 6, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers</u>. For more information call 645-8580 or e-mail <u>jcragland@columbus.gov</u>

GINTHER PROMOTING ARSON AWARENESS WEEK: Public Safety Committee Chair Andrew J. Ginther is sponsoring resolution 0051X-2009 to recognize Arson Awareness Week in the city of Columbus. Recently, arson of vacant and abandoned homes and businesses have spiked in central Ohio, resulting in one civilian death and multiple injuries to firefighters and civilians alike. In 2005, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) estimated there were 323,900 intentional fires set which resulted in 490 civilian fire deaths, 3 firefighter on-duty deaths, 1,500 civilian fire injuries, 7,600 firefighter on-duty injuries, and \$1.102 billion in direct property damage. Councilmember Ginther has invited Lieutenant David Sawyer to present ways citizens can assist the Division of Fire in fighting arson in Columbus.

NATIONAL BIKE MONTH: Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair Hearcel F. Craig is sponsoring resolution 0053X-2009 to recognize May 2009 as "National Bike Month" in Columbus. Several events will commemorate Bike Month including Share the Road and Bike to Work Week, which will kick off at The Ohio State University's Campus Gateway on May 11, 2009 at 7:30 a.m. Cyclists will take to the roads on May 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ohio Statehouse in a silent procession to honor cyclists who have been killed or injured while cycling on public roadways. BikeColumbus will be held May 30, 2009 at COSI to raise awareness and funding for healthier kids and diabetes prevention in a partnership between Mayor Coleman, the Institute for Active Living in Columbus Public Health, and Consider Biking.

RECYCLING YARD WASTE: Utilities Committee Chair <u>Eileen Y. Paley</u> is sponsoring *ordinance* 0535-2009 authorizing a \$100,000 service agreement with Madden Brothers Inc. for yard waste and log grinding services for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage. The city currently has a contract that provides the purchase of woodchips to be used as bulking agents for composting and to produce Com-Til, a dark, rich compost made from residual bio-solids from the city of Columbus wastewater treatment plants, yard waste and wood chips. The services to be performed under this agreement call for Madden Brothers Inc. to provide equipment and grind yard waste (shrubs, leaves, tree limbs, and logs) received by the compost facility. The finished product will be used as an alternative source for bulking agents.

COUNCIL HELPING PURSUE CLEAN FUEL TECHNOLOGY: Council President Michael C. Mentel is sponsoring ordinance 0651-2009 to enter into a partnership with Clean Fuels Ohio in seeking federal funding of Columbus' alternative fuel vehicle projects and infrastructure. The funding opportunity, created through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, will allow Clean Fuels Ohio to seek \$15 million to support the initiative. Columbus' portion of the funding request will be focused on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). Fleet Management anticipates requesting funding for the design and construction of a CNG fueling station, several CNG vehicles and several hybrid vehicles for potential use by the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Public Service.